

STOP Signs Installed in Wrong Places...

...usually create more problems than they solve.

Many requests are received for STOP signs to interrupt traffic or to slow speeding vehicles. However, studies across the nation show that there is a high number of intentional violations when STOP signs are installed as nuisances or “speedbreakers.”

While studies show that speed is reduced in the immediate vicinity of unwarranted STOP signs, speeds are often higher between intersections than before the unwarranted signs were installed. This is caused by motorists “making up for lost time.”



Unwarranted STOP signs also increase air pollution, waste fuel and create more traffic noise.

A Traffic Safety Message
From the
City of Springfield
Public Works Department



For more information:
417-864-1980
<http://traffic.springfieldmogov.org>

Will
More STOP Signs
Slow Traffic
On Our Street ?



City of Springfield
Traffic Engineering Division

Neighborhood Streets with Low Traffic...

...tend to operate best under the State Right of Way law.

When an intersection has no STOP or YIELD signs, State Law applies. It requires that when two vehicles enter a four-leg intersection from different streets at the same time, the driver on the left must yield right of way to the driver on the right. This requires drivers on all four approaches to slow down to reasonable speeds.



However, when STOP signs are installed on one street, drivers on the other street often tend to increase speed since they have the right of way. Drivers can be less attentive, since they may assume that the minor street traffic will yield to them.

Under the Right Conditions...

...STOP signs can play an important role in traffic safety.

National standards have been established to determine when STOP signs should be installed. These standards consider traffic speed, number of vehicles, sight distance, and frequency of “gaps in traffic” for safe vehicle entry or pedestrian crossing.

When STOP signs are used, they should stop vehicles on the street with less traffic. Four-way STOP signs are warranted and beneficial to the public when traffic volumes are approximately equal on all four approaches and entering volumes exceed 500 vehicles per hour, for at least 8 hours per day.

Most drivers are reasonable and prudent. When confronted with unreasonable and unnecessary restrictions, motorists are more likely to violate any type of traffic control sign.

REMEMBER

Unwarranted STOP signs:

- ✦ Do Not Stop Speeding
- ✦ Increase Air Pollution
- ✦ Increase Noise Pollution
- ✦ Waste Fuel